

DORCHESTER 4 SCHOOL DISTRICT

500 Ridge Street
St. George, SC 29477

GRADES PK-12

ENROLLMENT 2,347 Students

SUPERINTENDENT Mary M. Rice-Crenshaw, Ed.D. 843-563-4535

BOARD CHAIR Dr. James Hodges 843-563-4535

FISCAL AUTHORITY District Board/County Council

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

ANNUAL DISTRICT REPORT CARD

2003

ABSOLUTE RATING:

UNSATISFACTORY

Absolute Ratings of Districts with Students like Ours

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Unsatisfactory
0	0	6	6	3

IMPROVEMENT RATING:

BELOW AVERAGE

ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS:

N/A

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

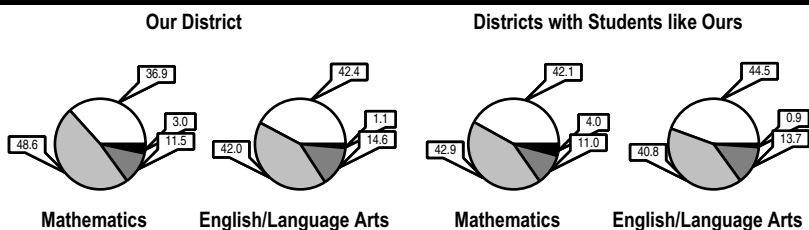
FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WEBSITES AT:

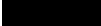



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PERFORMANCE TRENDS OVER 4-YEAR PERIOD

	Absolute Rating	Improvement Rating	Adequate Yearly Progress
2001	Below Average	Average	N/A
2002	Below Average	Below Average	N/A
2003	Unsatisfactory	Below Average	N/A
2004			

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS**Definition of Critical Terms**

	Advanced	Very high score; very well prepared to work at next grade level; exceeded expectations
	Proficient	Well prepared to work at next grade level; met expectations
	Basic	Met standards; minimally prepared, can go to next grade level
	Below Basic	Did not meet standards; must have an academic assistance plan; the local board policy determines progress to the next grade level

NOTE: Science and social studies are to be included in the 2005 school report card.

TENTH GRADE PASSAGE OF ONE OR MORE SUBTESTS OF THE EXIT EXAM

	Our District			Districts with Students Like Ours		
Percent	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003
Passed all 3 subtests	56.3	48.6	42.7	53.8	53.5	52.2
Passed 2 subtests	14.8	15.3	25.2	19.6	19.6	20.2
Passed 1 subtest	20.4	24.3	20.6	15.0	15.0	15.2
Passed no subtests	8.5	11.8	11.5	11.6	11.8	12.3

ELIGIBILITY FOR LIFE SCHOLARSHIPS

Percent of	Our District	Districts with Students Like Ours
Seniors eligible for LIFE Scholarships at four-year institutions*	2.6	6.1
Seniors who met the SAT requirement	2.6	6.2
Seniors who met the grade point average	35.5	40.0

*Using only the SAT and grade point average requirements

PACT PERFORMANCE BY GROUP

	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Below Basic	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Proficient and Advanced	State Objective
English/Language Arts								
All students	1,142	98.4	42.4	42.0	14.6	1.1	15.7	17.6
Gender								
Male	623	97.9	51.0	38.7	9.3	0.9	10.2	17.6
Female	519	99.0	32.6	45.6	20.5	1.3	21.8	17.6
Racial/Ethnic Group								
White	289	97.9	30.9	46.3	20.7	2.0	22.8	17.6
African-American	818	98.5	47.0	39.8	12.5	0.7	13.1	17.6
Asian/Pacific Islander	2	100.0						17.6
Hispanic	8	100.0						17.6
American Indian/Alaskan	25	100.0	26.1	65.2	8.7		8.7	17.6
Disability Status								
Not disabled	951	99.6	38.3	43.5	17.0	1.3	18.2	17.6
Disabled	191	92.7	67.1	32.9				17.6
Migrant Status								
Migrant		0.0						17.6
Non-migrant	1,142	98.4	42.3	42.1	14.6	1.1	15.7	17.6
English Proficiency								
Limited English proficient	2	100.0						17.6
Non-limited English proficient	1,140	98.4	42.3	41.9	14.7	1.1	15.8	17.6
Socio-Economic Status								
Subsidized meals	922	98.5	45.9	41.8	11.7	0.6	12.3	17.6
Full-pay meals	219	98.2	26.9	43.0	26.9	3.1	30.1	17.6

Mathematics								
All students	1,142	99.6	36.9	48.6	11.5	3.0	14.5	15.5
Gender								
Male	623	99.4	39.3	47.7	10.3	2.8	13.0	15.5
Female	519	99.8	34.0	49.7	12.9	3.3	16.3	15.5
Racial/Ethnic Group								
White	289	100.0	25.6	49.2	17.2	8.0	25.2	15.5
African-American	818	99.4	40.9	48.3	9.6	1.2	10.8	15.5
Asian/Pacific Islander	2	100.0						15.5
Hispanic	8	100.0						15.5
American Indian/Alaskan	25	100.0	34.8	52.2	8.7	4.3	13.0	15.5
Disability Status								
Not disabled	951	100.0	32.6	50.7	13.1	3.5	16.7	15.5
Disabled	191	97.4	61.7	36.2	2.0		2.0	15.5
Migrant Status								
Migrant		0.0						15.5
Non-migrant	1,142	99.6	36.7	48.7	11.5	3.0	14.6	15.5
English Proficiency								
Limited English proficient	2	100.0						15.5
Non-limited English proficient	1,140	99.6	36.6	48.8	11.5	3.1	14.6	15.5
Socio-Economic Status								
Subsidized meals	922	99.5	39.6	48.1	10.2	2.2	12.3	15.5
Full-pay meals	219	100.0	24.5	51.5	17.3	6.6	24.0	15.5

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A	Not Applicable	N/C	Not Collected	N/R	Not Reported	I/S	Insufficient Sample
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Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Below Basic	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Proficient and Advanced
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Mathematics								
2002	Grade 3	165		31.3	46.0	11.7	11.0	22.7
	Grade 4	198		31.1	49.7	13.5	5.7	19.2
	Grade 5	223		37.9	48.1	11.7	2.4	14.1
	Grade 6	163		39.5	45.9	9.6	5.1	14.6
	Grade 7	189		59.0	34.4	6.0	0.5	6.6
	Grade 8	158		64.1	31.4	3.8	0.6	4.5
2003	Grade 3	168	100.0	16.3	56.2	23.5	3.9	27.5
	Grade 4	166	100.0	27.4	52.2	13.4	7.0	20.4
	Grade 5	212	100.0	28.9	54.1	14.4	2.6	17.0
	Grade 6	226	99.6	44.3	39.8	11.9	4.0	15.9
	Grade 7	177	98.3	48.3	47.0	4.7		4.7
	Grade 8	193	99.5	54.4	43.9	1.2	0.6	1.8

Terra Nova: a national, norm-referenced achievement test.

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Grade	Reading		Language		Math		Total	
	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation
3	49.2	50.0	51.5	50.0	58.2	50.0	54.8	50.0
6	57.6	50.0	49.0	50.0	51.2	50.0	51.4	50.0
9*	56.1	50.0	46.8	50.0	51.6	50.0	51.2	50.0

* Grade 9 estimates were based on a sample that may not be representative of the entire 9th grade population.

National Assessment of Educational Progress: a national, criterion-referenced achievement test.

Test	Grade	Year	Advanced		Proficient		Basic		Below Basic	
			State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation
Reading	8	2002	1	3	23	30	44	43	32	25
Writing	4	2002	1	2	16	26	65	58	18	14
Mathematics	8	2000	2	5	15	22	37	38	45	34

PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS

	Exit Exam Passage Rate by Spring 2003		Eligibility for LIFE Scholarships*		Graduation Rate	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
All Students	121	89.3%	76	2.6%	152	46.1%
Gender						
Male	61	91.8%	29	0.0%	78	52.6%
Female	60	86.7%	47	4.3%	74	39.2%
Race or Ethnic Group						
African American	92	85.9%	61	0.0%	115	47.8%
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
White	25	100.0%	11	18.2%	31	35.5%
Other	2	I/S	4	I/S	6	66.7%
Disability Status						
Non-speech disabilities	2	I/S	0	N/A	12	0.0%
Students without disabilities	119	89.9%	76	2.6%	0	50.0%
Migrant Status						
Migrant	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
Non-migrant	2	I/S	76	2.6%	0	N/A
English Proficiency						
Limited English proficient	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
Non-LEP	119	89.1%	76	2.6%	143	49.0%
Lunch Status						
Subsidized meals	71	87.3%	45	0.0%	90	45.6%
Full-pay meals	49	91.8%	31	6.5%	62	46.8%

* Using only the SAT and grade point average requirements

n = number of students on which percentage is calculated

2002-2003 COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TESTS

SAT	Verbal		Math		Total	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
District	417	425	419	441	836	866
State	488	493	493	496	981	989
Nation	504	507	516	519	1020	1026

ACT	English		Math		Reading		Science		Total	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
District	14.5	16.1	15.6	17.1	14.5	16.0	15.7	17.3	15.2	16.8
State	18.8	18.7	19.1	19.0	19.3	19.4	19.2	19.2	19.2	19.2
Nation	20.2	20.3	20.6	20.6	21.1	21.2	20.8	20.8	20.8	20.8

SCHOOLS IN "SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT STATUS"

DISTRICT PROFILE

	Our District	Change from Last Year	Districts with Students Like Ours	Median District
Students (n= 2,347)				
First graders who attended full-day kindergarten	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Retention rate	6.3%	Up from 4.4%	5.0%	4.0%
Attendance rate	93.6%	Down from 94.5%	95.2%	95.4%
Meeting grade 1 & 2 readiness standards	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Eligible for gifted and talented	6.1%	Down from 6.5%	6.1%	10.7%
On academic plans	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
On academic probation	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
With disabilities other than speech	10.0%	Up from 9.3%	10.4%	10.6%
Older than usual for grade	6.2%	Down from 6.8%	6.8%	5.5%
Suspended or expelled	3.1%	Up from 1.3%	1.6%	1.6%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	3.9%	N/A	N/A	10.0%
Successful on AP/IB exams	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Enrolled in adult education GED or diploma programs	26	Down from 83	187	186
Completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	10	Down from 11	27	40

Teachers (n= 186)

Teachers with advanced degrees	43.5%	Down from 44.2%	43.5%	47.8%
Continuing contract teachers	80.1%	No change	81.0%	82.8%
Highly qualified teachers	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Teachers returning from previous year	87.2%	Down from 88.0%	87.4%	89.5%
Teacher attendance rate	93.0%	Down from 94.4%	94.8%	95.1%
Average teacher salary	\$39,646	Up 1.2%	\$38,260	\$39,707
Prof. development days/teacher	14.6 days	Up from 8.5 days	12.6 days	11.3 days

District

Superintendent's years at district	2.0	Up from 1.5	2.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio	20.0 to 1	Up from 11.8 to 1	20.0 to 1	20.6 to 1
Prime instructional time	85.6%	Down from 87.2%	87.8%	89.0%
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$8,589	Up 7.9%	\$7,559	\$7,412
Percent spent on teacher salaries*	54.9%	Up from 50.7%	53.9%	56.0%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No change	Good	Excellent
Parents attending conferences	70.2%	Down from 76.2%	92.6%	96.1%
Number of schools	4	No change	5	8
Number of magnet schools	0	No change	0	0
Number of charter schools	0	No change	0	0
Portable classrooms	6.0%	Up from 4.7%	4.9%	3.5%
Average age in years of school facility	43	N/A	34	26
Number of schools with SACS accreditation	4	N/A	4	8

* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

	Our District	State
Highly qualified teachers in low poverty schools	N/A	N/A
Highly qualified teachers in high poverty schools	N/A	N/A

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A	Not Applicable	N/C	Not Collected	N/R	Not Reported	I/S	Insufficient Sample
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SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNANCE**Board Membership**

5 trustees elected to single-member seats

Fiscal Authority

District Board/County Council

Average Number of Hours of Training Annually 28.0 per board member**Percent new trustees completing orientation** 100.0%**DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

I sincerely appreciate everyone's patience and understanding throughout what has been a most challenging year for our District. Because of the state funding shortfall for this school year, we had to make reductions in supplies, staff, and unfortunately programs focused on improving student achievement.

However, I marvel at what our staff and students have accomplished in spite of these reductions. Instead of being used as excuses, challenges became opportunities for continued growth, achievement, and excellence. Just to mention a few of our accomplishments: PACT scores at all schools show significant gains in reading and math; SAT scores show significant gains; the number of Life Scholars increased over the past two years; ACT scores remain constant; and all schools are implementing strategies to improve teaching and learning across the curriculum.

Our commitment to continuous improvement of the teaching and learning system of Dorchester Four is evident by the initiatives to improve instruction.

Summer Curriculum Academy
 Upgrade Instructional Technology
 Standards in Practice Implementation
 Continuous Assessment with the Implementation of ABACUS
 Instructional Focus Walks
 Collaboration with Local College and Universities
 Expansion of the Odyssey Educational Center (Alternative Education)
 Reading Initiative
 Homework Centers
 Parents as Teachers and Parent Home Child Initiatives
 Cluster School Leadership Training
 After-School and Summer Enrichment
 Blue Ribbon School Initiative

Thank you for your part in all of our successes.

The District, School Board, and local leaders are faced with difficult choices due to significant funding shortfalls. I am confident our community, parents, and District staff will continue to work together in successful partnership for the benefit of our children.

DEFINITIONS OF DISTRICT RATING TERMS

- Excellent - District performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Good - District performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Average - District performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Below Average - District is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Unsatisfactory - District performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal